

NASA PSD Education/Public Outreach Opportunities in FY 2012

Month	YSS Theme	Date	Opportunity
Oct 2011	<i>Moons and Rings</i>	Oct 1	1945: Arthur C. Clarke published concept of using manned artificial moons in geostationary orbits as communications relays.
		Oct 4	1957: The USSR stunned the world by launching the very first artificial moon, <i>Sputnik 1</i> .
		Oct 4	1959: Launch of <i>Luna 3</i> to fly by the Moon and image its far side for the first time.
		Oct 10	1846: William Lassell discovered Triton, the large and unusual moon of Neptune (a captured KBO?).
		Oct 15	1997: <i>Cassini</i> mission launched, would later orbit Saturn and drop <i>Huygens</i> probe at Titan.
		Oct 25	1671: Giovanni Cassini discovered Iapetus.
		Oct 28	1964: <i>Mariner 4</i> flew by Mars.
		Oct 29	1991: The <i>Galileo</i> spacecraft, en route to Jupiter, flew by asteroid 951 Gaspra, yielding the first close look at any asteroid.
Nov 2011	<i>Magnetosphere</i>	Nov 3	1973: Launch of <i>Mariner 10</i> ; would fly by Venus once and Mercury three times, yielding the first close looks at the latter (if only ~50% of the surface).
		Nov 7	1996: Launch of <i>Mars Global Surveyor</i> .
		Nov 12	1980: <i>Voyager 1</i> flew by Saturn. Its success at Titan allowed <i>Voyager 2</i> to be sent on "Grand Tour."
		Nov 13	1971: <i>Mariner 9</i> became the first spacecraft to orbit another planet (Mars).
		Nov 25	<i>Mars Science Laboratory</i> is scheduled for launch.
		Nov 30	1954: Ann Hodges of Sylacauga, Alabama, was struck by a falling meteor
Dec 2011	<i>Evolving Worlds Part 1</i>	Dec 3	1973: <i>Pioneer 10</i> became the first spacecraft to fly by Jupiter. Telemetry would be received from <i>Pioneer 10</i> until April 27, 2002, and contact was not lost completely until January 23, 2003!
		Dec 4	1639: First Transit of Venus was observed, by Horrocks.
		Dec 14	40 th anniversary of the last human footprints being made on the Moon (Gene Cernan, <i>Apollo 17</i>)

		Dec 14	50 th anniversary of the <i>Mariner 2</i> fly-by of Venus
Jan 2012	<i>Evolving Worlds Part 2</i>	Jan 1	1801: Asteroid 1 Ceres was discovered by Piazza.
		Jan 7	1610: Galileo discovered that Jupiter has moons (and that the Earth was NOT the Center of All Motion in the Universe; Io, Europa, and Ganymede).
		Jan 24	1986: <i>Voyager 2</i> flew by Uranus, to date the only spacecraft to do so.
Feb 2012	<i>Far-Ranging Robots</i>	Feb 7	1999: Launch of the <i>Stardust</i> comet sample return mission.
		Feb 8	1969: Fall of the Allende carbonaceous chondrite meteorite in Chihuahua, Mexico
		Feb 14	1990: Distant <i>Voyager 1</i> imaged the Solar System's "Family Portrait."
		Feb 17	1996: Launch of the <i>Near-Earth Asteroid Rendezvous</i> mission. <i>NEAR</i> would fly by asteroid 253 Mathilde, then orbit and land on 433 Eros.
		Feb 17	2007: Five <i>THEMIS</i> satellites were launched.
		Feb 18	1930: Clyde Tombaugh discovered Pluto.
		[Mar 3]	Launch of <i>Pioneer 10</i> , the first spacecraft to fly by Jupiter. Telemetry would continue to be received from <i>Pioneer 10</i> until April 27, 2002, and contact was not lost completely until January 23, 2003!
Mar 2012	<i>Shadows of the Sun Part 1</i>	Mar 3	100 th anniversary of the discovery of the Cepheid period-luminosity relationship by Henrietta Leavitt.
		Mar 7	2009: Launch of the <i>Kepler</i> exo-planet detector.
		Mar 9	1979: Recently-predicted active volcanism on Jupiter's moon, Io, discovered; a real "Called Shot!"
		Mar 10	1977: Rings of Uranus discovered by their blocking of starlight during an occultation.
		Mar 13	1781: William Herschel discovered Uranus.
		Mar 25	1655: Christiaan Huygens discovered Saturn's moon, Titan, the only Solar System moon with an appreciable atmosphere. The <i>Cassini</i> spacecraft would drop the successful <i>Huygens</i> probe at Titan; it landed there on Jan 14, 2005.
		Mar 25	2000: The <i>IMAGE</i> spacecraft was launched.
		Mar 28	Heinrich Olbers (of "Paradox" fame) discovered asteroid 2 Pallas (1802) and 4 Vesta (1807).

		Mar29	1975: <i>Mariner 10</i> made the first of its three fly-bys of Mercury, providing our first close-up look.
Apr 2012	Ice!	Apr 1	1960: Launch of <i>Tiros 1</i>
		Apr 7	2001: Launch of the <i>Mars Odyssey</i> spacecraft
		Apr 11	1960: Start of Frank Drake's SETI <i>Project OZMA</i>
		Apr 12	1961: First Man in Space: Yuri Gagarin
		Apr 16-20	AbScieCon in Atlanta
		Apr 24	1990: Launch of STS-31 to deploy the <i>HST</i>
		Apr 26	1803: The L'Aigle meteor shower was widely observed.
		Apr 28	National Astronomy Day
May 2012	New Data, New Ideas	May 2	1945: Werner von Braun and many of his team of rocket scientists were captured by Allied forces.
		May 20	Annular solar eclipse – visible in western USA near sunset, a good “warm up” for the Transit of Venus.
		May 25	1961: President Kennedy challenged the USA to go to the Moon, “... before the decade is out...”
		May 29	1919: Arthur Eddington and others measured star positions during a total solar eclipse, confirming Einstein's Theory of General Relativity.
Jun 2012	Shadows of the Sun Part 2	Jun 6	2012: Transit of Venus – the last anyone now alive will ever see!
		Jun 11	1985: <i>Vega 1</i> , en route to Comet Halley, dropped a landing probe and instrumented balloon at Venus
		Jun 30	1908: An impacting body exploded above the Siberian forest, flattening trees for miles around.
Jul 2012	Got Life?	Jul 3	1992: Launch of <i>SAMPLEX</i> spacecraft
		Jul 4	1945: First rocket launch at Wallops Island
		Jul 4	1997: Launch of the <i>Mars Pathfinder</i> mission to Mars, along with its rover, <i>Sojourner</i>
		Jul 10	50 th anniversary of the launch of the <i>Telstar 1</i> communications relay satellite
		Jul 14	1965: <i>Mariner 4</i> became the first to fly by Mars
		Jul 18	1975: The <i>Apollo-Soyuz Test Project</i> was launched and was soon home of the famed “Handshake in Space”
		Jul 20	1969: <i>Apollo 11</i> landed safely on the Moon!
		Jul 20	1976: <i>Viking 1</i> landed safely on Mars, the first spacecraft to make a soft landing on the Red Planet

		Jul 28	1964: <i>Ranger 7</i> became the first successful US “hard lander” of the Moon.	
Aug 2012	<i>Discovering New Worlds</i>	50 th Anniversary	Some time in Aug	2012: Landing of <i>Mars Science Laboratory</i> (“Curiosity” rover) on Mars at Gale Crater
			Aug 3	2004: The <i>MESSENGER</i> spacecraft was launched, would eventually orbit Mercury
			Aug 11	1877: Asaph Hall discovered Deimos, at the U.S. Naval Observatory. He would discover Phobos, Mars’ other moon, Phobos, on 8/17/1877
			Aug 20	1975: Launch of <i>Viking 1</i> , the first Mars soft lander
			Aug 25	1998: <i>Voyager 2</i> flew-by Neptune, the only spacecraft to visit that planet to date
			Aug 27	<i>1962: Launch of Mariner 2, the first successful interplanetary probe, to fly-by Venus on 12/14/62</i>
Sep 2012			Sep 1	1979: <i>Pioneer 11</i> became the first spacecraft to fly by Saturn
			Sep 11	1997: <i>Mars Global Surveyor</i> spacecraft inserted into martian orbit
			Sep 23	1846: Planet Neptune was discovered. First seen by Galle and d’Arrest on prediction by Urbain LeVerrier

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LADEE launch from Wallops Flight Facility scheduled for May 2, 2013